



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 115th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 163

WASHINGTON, TUESDAY, JUNE 6, 2017

No. 96

House of Representatives

The House met at noon and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. BERGMAN).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
June 6, 2017.

I hereby appoint the Honorable JACK BERGMAN to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

PAUL D. RYAN,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 3, 2017, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties. All time shall be equally allocated between the parties, and in no event shall debate continue beyond 1:50 p.m. Each Member, other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip, shall be limited to 5 minutes.

D-DAY TRIBUTE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. HILL) for 5 minutes.

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the bravery and courage of so many men who sacrificed everything on D-day. At 5:52 in the morning on June 6, 1944, in a position about 4,000 yards from Omaha Beach, one of the oldest ships in the U.S. Navy, a World War I battleship, the USS *Arkansas*, opened fire on German positions at Omaha Beach in support of more than 30,000 American soldiers tasked with

securing the beachhead. The countless heroes who stormed the beaches of Normandy on that fateful day 73 years ago will never be forgotten.

I had the honor of visiting this hallowed ground over Memorial Day, and while I was paying tribute to the brave soldiers who made the ultimate sacrifice at the Normandy American Cemetery and Memorial, an older Frenchman by the name of Mr. Vonclair approached me simply wanting to honor his liberators. He said that he just wanted to thank an American. He was 10 years old when D-day occurred, and he will never forget how the United States of America came to his and so many others' aid in the liberation of Europe from the Nazi menace.

Mr. Vonclair's love for America and our GI's speaks volumes about the goodwill and exceptional character of our great Nation. It is a privilege to offer my sincere tribute to the brave men who laid down their lives in the defense of those French and American shared convictions of liberty, equality, and fraternity.

RECOGNIZING STAFF SERGEANT ROBERT DALE VAN FOSSEN

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in recognition of one of Arkansas' finest, Staff Sergeant Robert Dale Van Fossen of Greenbrier, Arkansas. On November 22, 1952, a Douglas C-124A Globemaster II took off from McChord Air Base in Tacoma, Washington, headed for Elmendorf Air Force Base near Anchorage. Staff Sergeant Robert Dale Van Fossen, along with 51 others, was onboard. And near Middleton Island, in the Gulf of Alaska, the plane disappeared.

Eight days after the plane's disappearance, part of the wreckage was located some 50 miles east of Anchorage. Unfortunately, a week into the search, the recovery team had to call off the effort due to weather conditions. The families of the victims were notified they would not have any remains to bury.

Finally, in March 2016, after 64 years and extensive recovery efforts, Staff Sergeant Van Fossen's remains were confirmed found and returned to his home in Heber Springs, Arkansas.

I would like to extend my deepest condolences to the family of Staff Sergeant Van Fossen and hope that they are now able to find peace that he is finally home and in his final resting place.

CONWAY BIKESHARE PROGRAM

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, last month we recognized National Bike Month and the many bicycling benefits that we have as citizens. I rise today to recognize the city of Conway, Arkansas, for its installation of their successful public bikesharing program and to emphasize its leading example of advocacy for an active lifestyle.

As a long-time biker, I am pleased to see the city work to provide an alternative and convenient source of transportation for residents of Conway to help relieve congestion and promote a healthier city.

As a former board member of the Bicycle Advocacy of Central Arkansas, I am glad to see Conway's bikesharing program as one more step on the path towards fulfilling the mayor's vision of a vibrant, healthy, and bike friendly city.

RECOGNIZING RICHIE ARNOLD ON HIS RETIREMENT

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in recognition of a great Arkansan, a long-time Conway resident, and one of the pillars of the Conway Corporation, Mr. Richie Arnold. Mr. Arnold is retiring from his post as CEO after 39 years with the company. He hails from Harrison and is a University of Arkansas graduate with a degree in accounting. He joined Conway Corporation as a manager of data processing before becoming manager of finance and accounting and then ultimately the chief executive officer in 1998.

During his tenure at Conway Corporation, he always worked to keep the

This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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